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land friends though criminal with respect to their own Gov^t, yet they have not been able to drive it from its course, nor to do the British any essential service, they have likewise happily deceived themselves in calculating on the cowardice of the American Character. There is therefore reason to expect that peace will last long, and Britain be so wise as to prefer our friendship and her interest in our commerce to provoking war. Indeed I think the country has a prospect of a long peace not only with the nations of Europe but even the Indian tribes, and of very great prosperity, this can only be prevented by our own indiscretion.

I not only participate In the General Joy for the return of peace, but I rejoice and am thankfull on my own account that being so far advanced in life and having voted for war and that I have lived to see the restoration of a peace, honorable to our Gov^t and arms, I shall in this respect die in peace of mind.

We appear to have a great diversity of opinion on the question to what degree we shall dismiss the Army, no report is yet made on the Navy.

I am, with sincere esteem

Yours very respectfully

WM. FINDLEY.

Hon^{ble} WM. PLUMER.

P. S. I would glad as to know the progress. This war and peace will make an important item in it.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Notes.

ARCHIVES OF UNION COUNTY, N. J.—Mr. Ernest L. Meyer, City Surveyor of Elizabeth, N. J., will, if he receives sufficient encouragement, publish a series of volumes under the above title. He writes: "During a residence of over thirty years in Elizabeth, I have collected many documents and other matter relating to the early history of this county and the genealogy of its settlers which are not to be found in any office of record, and which have never been printed. By patient search I have succeeded in bringing together in a complete form the oldest town books now in existence, which contain a great amount of historical and genealogical information."

The first volume will relate to Elizabeth Town—nearly co-terminous with the present Union County. The edition will be limited to the number of the subscriptions, a list of which will be given in the book. The price of the first volume which is nearly ready will be \$3.00. Subscriptions should be sent immediately to Ernest L. Meyer (City Surveyor), Elizabeth, Union County, N. J., as he should have at once all the encouragement those interested in his undertaking can give him.

MAINE HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL RECORDER.—Under this title Mr. S. M. Watson, of Portland, Me., has issued the first number of a quarterly magazine, which will be devoted to the preservation of material relating to the history of the State of Maine and its citizens. The first number contains a sketch of the King family, which is accompanied with a portrait of William King, first Governor of the State of Maine; The Willis Papers;

Marriages in 1800; Obituaries of an early date, gathered from different sources; Kittery Records, and other interesting papers. It is a small 4to. of 32 pages to the number, 60 cts. each or \$2.00 per annum. The Recorder is such a publication as should exist in every State in the Union, and we trust it will meet with every success.

PENNSYLVANIA CONVENTION OF 1787.—Can any reader of the Magazine inform us if the manuscript of the Debates in the Pennsylvania Convention of 1787, which considered and approved of the Federal Constitution, is in existence? The report, as printed by Elliot, is very imperfect. A much better one will be found in several papers of the day, and although its publication was continued some time after the convention adjourned, it ends with the proceedings of November 30, 1787. From this fact we are led to conclude that a full report must have been made and its publication suspended, either because the editors of those days thought that, in the language of some of their successors, it smacked too much of "ancient history," or on account of their having been denied the use of the manuscript for some unknown reason.

HERALDIC HINTS CONCERNING THE COLONIAL GOVERNORS OF PENNSYLVANIA.—In examining the seals used by some of the colonial governors of Pennsylvania, preserved in the Penna. Hist. Society and elsewhere, the following notes have resulted, which are certainly interesting if not valuable:—

"William Markham, several times Deputy Governor, used the following arms upon his seal: "Az. on a chief or a demi-lion rampant issu." These arms are impaled with those of the Thomas family of Dublin. The arms described are the same as those of Markham of Sedgebrooke, County Nottingham, Eng.; a family which derives from Sir John Markham, Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench, during the reign of Henry VI.; the family obtained a barony in 1642, which became extinct in 1779.

John Blackwell, Deputy Governor 1688-1690, in writing to Wm. Penn from Philadelphia, June 24, 1689, seals his letter with arms described as follows: "Paly of six ar. and az. on a chief gu. a lion pass. guard or. Cresh, A Swan's head and neck erased ar." Burke, in his General Armory, assigns these arms to the Blackwells of Sprouston Hall, County Norfolk, England.

Patrick Gordon, Deputy Governor 1726-1736, had for his seal a shield bearing quarterly the arms of Gordon, Badenoch, Seton, and Frazer, as follows: "1st. Az. three boars heads or, GORDON. 2d. Or. three lions heads, erased gu., BADENOCH. 3d. Or. three crescents within the royal tressure of Scotland, gu. SETON. 4th. Az. three cinque-foils arg. FRASER."

Philadelphia Gordon, daughter of Gov. Patrick Gordon, married in 1733 Abram Taylor, a merchant of Philadelphia, and an active member of the Council of the Colony. Burke, in describing the arms of John Taylor Gordon, Esq., M.D., gives the Gordon arms as above, quartered with the arms used by Abraham and Isaac Taylor (in MSS. Pa. Hist. Soc.) as follows: "TAYLOR, Erm. on a Chevron between three anchors az. as many escallops arg. Crest. A Stork ppr. holding an anchor az."

Burke, in his "General Armory," further says that this John Taylor Gordon was descended from the Gordons of Cluny, through "his great-great grandfather Maj.-General Patrick Gordon, Governor of Pennsylvania, who was descended from Alexander Gordon, Laird of Strathaven, 3rd son of Alexander, 3rd Earl of Huntley." The seal of Patrick Gordon was sometimes accompanied by the motto "Par l'eepee," and for a crest, "A right arm embowed grasping a sword."

Col. John Hamilton, son of Andrew Hamilton, Deputy Governor 1701-1703, bore the arms of the Hamilton family, viz.: "Gu. three cinque-foils

erm." Gov. James Hamilton used the same arms, differenced with a smaller central mullet. John Blackwell, by the by, in the seal mentioned above, impales his arms with those of the Hamilton family.

Thomas Lloyd, upon a letter dated Philadelphia, 1684, uses as a crest a "Goats head erased," instead of the "goat ppr" shown on the arms in the "Lloyd Genealogy."

D. McN. STAUFFER.

THE ORIGIN AND NATURE OF WAMPUM.—We copy the following notice of an interesting address by Horatio Hale, M.A., before the British Association for the Advancement of Science from the *Montreal Gazette*, of August 30, 1884. Mr. Hale said:—

It was a notable fact, he said, that while the partly civilized Indians of Central and South America carried on commerce without money, among those of the United States and Canada a monetary currency was in common use. Their wampum was formed, in the shape of small disks or cylinders, of shells perforated through the centre and strung together on strings of deer's sinew. The system had been found so convenient for purposes of exchange, that it had even been adopted by some of the early colonists. In most cases the material was the conch periwinkle, and *venus mercenaria*. The colors were white and purple or black—which was twice as valuable as the white, on account of its rarity. These shell arrangements differed from the cowries of the East Indies. In course of time they came to have a social and political significance. Important acts of state policy were confirmed by the gift or exchange of them. On the occasion of treaties belts of wampum were presented. Each belt had its own device, woven in white on a dark ground or *vice versa*. The rude pictorial emblems generally employed resembled the early Chinese characters. Wampum was also devoted to sacrificial and funeral ceremonies. It had been found in abundance in the mounds of the Mississippi Valley; and, in our own times, was in vogue west of the Rocky Mountains. In traffic, the value was rated sometimes by the length of the strings, sometimes by the number of beads. There was a larger kind, consisting of oblong strips, with holes for stringing. Going far to the westward there was found among the Micronesian islanders an almost similar usage. They made their wampum of the disks of shells, of cocoa-nuts, of the tortoise-shell. In the Loo-Choo Islands the inhabitants had what was known as "cash," small circular copper coins. The Chinese themselves anciently used tortoise-shells. Of the earliest Chinese copper money, some pieces were round, others oblong. The Celestials had also mock-money, made of tin-foil and paper for sacrificial uses, which might be taken as evidence that their money at first consisted of combustible material. The inference to be drawn from the existence of such media of commercial exchange among those oriental peoples was that at some period the idea of shell money had been carried from East Asia or Micronesia to the shores of America. The fact that Japanese junks had been known to be wrecked on the Pacific coast was to the point in the argument. The Micronesians, moreover, were accustomed to make protracted voyages in their well-rigged vessels, and it was not impossible that some of their craft might have drifted to our shores where the occupants would come in contact with the Indians. Whether, however, the use of wampum was derived from the East or not, it could not be denied that it gave evidence of good intellectual powers. It was to be regretted that a subject of such interest had been so long treated with indifference in America. At present there was great scarcity of wampum belts, though some that had been preserved were of deep interest and of considerable historical value. One which was shown to the audience was said to be 160 years old. It was of rare beauty of make and significant design. Four dark squares (the rest being of white beads) were interpreted

to mean four Indian towns. Another which Mr. Hale exhibited was even more remarkable in its structure, displaying emblematic figures. The use of wampum for mnemonic purposes was also explained, and Mr. Hale showed photographs of the chiefs (Six Nations), to whom he was indebted for his interpretation. Interesting to Canadians were some beads found in Orillia County by Mr. Hirschfelder, who believed they had been the property of the Hurons. The paper gave rise to a most animated discussion, in which Mr. Cushing (who had spent so many years among the Zuni Indians), Mrs. Erminnie Smith, Mr. Putnam, Major Powell, and Dr. Tylor took part. All the speakers expressed the deep satisfaction with which they had listened to the paper, and their gratitude to Mr. Hale for the light that he had shed on a subject so important.

LIVERY OF SEISIN IN PENNSYLVANIA.—Of the following document, the original of which has been presented to the Historical Society of Pennsylvania by Mr. Walter Cresson, Mr. Joseph B. Townsend writes us:—

This document is an attestation of what in the law is called "Livery of Seisin;" that is to say that John Moor, doubtless by separate deed, conveyed the land thereon mentioned to Henry Oburn, and in addition to the delivery of the deed accompanied it with this livery of seisin which is accomplished thus: The grantor and grantee in the presence of two credible witnesses appear on the land sold, and there, by handing over a "twig and turf," the grantor accomplishes delivery of actual possession to the grantee, which act the witnesses attest. This usage, which from time immemorial had prevailed in England, and had occasionally but very rarely been practised in Pennsylvania, has gradually been abandoned since the conveyancing under the Statute of uses has been introduced.

PHILADELPHIA, September 27, 1884.

JOS. B. TOWNSEND.

Be it Remembered That on the Twentieth day of the first month called March in the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred & Twelve Appeared John Moore of Concord in the County of Chester in the Province of Pennsylvania Yeom̄ in his proper person on the Great Road Leading to Chester and where it goes through the Land formerly Gorge Thompsons then John Beazars and afterwards Richard Moors & now in the Possession of the said John Moore And did then & there actually Deliver Possession of all that part of the above s^d Land Lying on the North East Side of the s^d Road & Extending to the Middle of the s^d Road unto Henry Oburn of the Same place & county Yeom̄ by Turfe & Twig in the presence of

matthyes kern

^{his}
John + Palmer
mark

MAGAZINE OF AMERICAN HISTORY.—The October number of this periodical will be found of more than usual interest. The opening article, which is well illustrated, is entitled *Curiosities of Invention, being a Chapter of American Industrial History*, by Charles Bernard. This is followed by a paper on *Monroe and the Rhea Letter*, by James Schouler, an episode of almost-forgotten importance in our national history. The story will be new to many, and interesting to all familiar with the excitement it once occasioned. From unpublished papers in the Gouverneur collection, and from the Diary of John Quincy Adams, Mr. Schouler argues that Monroe's conduct in the matter was above suspicion, and inclines to the opinion "that the whole story was fabricated in or about 1831 by Rhea and others in Jackson's confidence for some political purpose in connection with the Calhoun disclosures which they did not see fit to press."

Our Pennsylvania readers will be interested also in *The Nation's First Rebellion*, by H. G. Cutler, being an account of the Whiskey Insurrection. There is also a tribute to the late *Orsamus Holmes Marshall*, whose scholarly investigations, read before the Buffalo Historical Society, or published in the *Magazine of American History*, have delighted thousands of readers. This paper is accompanied with an excellent portrait on steel. The Magazine of History is edited by Mrs. Martha J. Lamb, and can be ordered from No. 30 Lafayette Place, New York. The price is \$5 per year, and it is published monthly.

Queries.

WAYNE.—Secretary of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. Can you give me the following information: When did Anthony Wayne, grandfather of General Wayne, settle in Pennsylvania? Also, what part of England did the family come from, Yorkshire, or near Derby, High Sheen, Stafford? Whom did Anthony Wayne marry before coming to America? E. M. H.

BOND.—Information is desired of the personal (not medical) history, including marriage, children, and descendants of the Drs. Thomas and Phineas Bond of the Pennsylvania Hospital.

240 N. Casey St., Balt., Md.

JNO. R. QUINAN, M.D.

Replies.

RUMSEY, NOT RAMSAY (Vol. V. pp. 409, 480).—Mr. George Johnston, author of the History of Cecil County, Maryland, writes that we are certainly mistaken in asserting that the Colonel Rumsey mentioned in Montréssor's Journal (PENN. MAG., Vol. V. p. 409) was Colonel Nathaniel Ramsay of the Maryland Line. Mr. Johnston refers us to a letter of Benjamin Rumsey to Governor Thomas Johnson (see Scharf's Maryland, Vol. II. p. 317), which supports his belief that he (Benjamin Rumsey) was the person alluded to. It shows that he was in the neighborhood commanding a small number of Maryland militia—such a body as Montréssor describes. We have no doubt Mr. Johnston is right, and we would have made this correction sooner, but his letter was accidentally mislaid.

LONG BULLETS (Vol. VI. pp. 255, 376).—This game was very common in Cecil County in the latter part of the last and early part of the present century. If more than two persons participated in the game, each party of contestants was under the direction of a captain. The first choice of the captain's was determined by lot, and any even number of players might take part in the game.

The game was usually played on a road or street, or some place where there was no grass or weeds to obstruct the bullets used in playing it. The game consisted in *jerking* a bullet weighing a pound, or a pound and a half, from a scrawl to or past other scrawls on the ground at the distance of about sixty, eighty, and a hundred yards. The bullets that struck the ground at or beyond the first scrawl counted one, those striking at or beyond the other scrawls counted two and three respectively. In order to accelerate the velocity of the bullets and make the best score possible, the players approached the scrawl at the top of their speed. Sometimes in counting the score the distance the bullet rolled along the ground was taken into consideration.

The foregoing description was obtained from an intelligent old gentleman eighty-seven years of age, who frequently saw the game played when he was a boy. Information derived from other sources leads the writer to believe that the game was sometimes played by *jerking* the bullet three times continuously, the party aggregating the greatest distance after three throws being the victors.

The method of propelling the bullets, which is called *jerking*, consisted in bringing the upper part of the arm by a quick half rotary motion of the shoulder-joint, in contact with the side of the body, and when the upper part of the arm reached a perpendicular position, releasing the bullet from the grasp of the hand, in a manner somewhat similar to, but by no means identical with, the method of pitching a base ball.

GEO. JOHNSTON.

NIXON.—To the first volume of the PA. MAG. OF HIST. AND BIOG. (p. 188), I contributed a memoir of Colonel John Nixon, who, on the 8th of July, 1776, read for the first time publicly to the people the Declaration of Independence. In that memoir I mention an old sea chest, now in the possession of one of his descendants, with the initials and date N. G. S. 1686. belonged to the emigrant ancestors of the family, and that the initials and date commemorate the period of their departure from their old homes for a new land, and add that "the arrangement of the letters would show that the initials of the surname was 'N,' while 'G' and 'S' represented respectively the Christian names of the emigrant husband and wife." Upon making inquiry in Ireland, I learn from John O'Hart, Esq., of Dublin, the author of the work on Irish Pedigrees, that George Nixon, of the County Wexford, married Susan Sinnott, was a Papist, and was deprived of his property consequent on the penal laws in Ireland; and that he emigrated from Ireland in the latter part of the seventeenth century. These facts, in connection with the initials on the trunk, seem to me very satisfactory evidence that George and Susan Nixon were the parents of Richard Nixon, the father of Colonel John Nixon. The penal laws against Roman Catholics were in force in Pennsylvania as late as 1708, and George Nixon may have conformed to the established church after his arrival here, or his son Richard may have been the first adherent; for, by reference to the memoir itself, it will be seen that Richard Nixon was married and buried in Christ Church, and was also a vestryman of the corporation. I am in hopes that this note may bring some additional light on the subject from other sources.

PHILADELPHIA, August, 1884.

CHARLES HENRY HART.